

**Weekly Weather
Crop Report**

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending July 2, 2006

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, July 2, 2006**. Farm operators continue to need rain, and according to some reports, non-irrigated crops will be lost if there is not any rainfall this coming week. Plant bugs are beginning to appear and are being treated accordingly. Several operators are grazing cattle in fields that would normally be cut for hay due to the lack of adequate pasture growth. Soil moisture was rated 54 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 9 percent adequate.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2005	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Silked	98	92	88	90	7	19	25	44	5
	Dough	70	40	38	48					
	Dent	5	--	3	11					
Cotton	Squaring	88	72	83	79	3	8	21	60	8
	Setting Bolls	41	16	15	24					
Peanuts	Pegging	24	15	--	--	1	16	38	21	24
Rice	Heading	7	5	7	7	1	4	14	68	13
Sorghum	Heading	66	34	44	48	3	3	9	84	1
Soybeans	Emerged	100	100	100	100	3	12	23	52	10
	Blooming	88	80	81	65					
	Setting Pods	64	46	51	37					
Wheat	Harvested	100	99	100	98	--	--	--	--	--
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	100	99	100	100	15	21	24	38	2
		44	34	50	45					
(Warm Season)										
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	75	70	86	86	0	30	23	46	1
Watermelons	Harvested	58	40	47	38	18	23	49	9	1
Blueberries						0	7	24	62	7
Cattle						8	17	23	41	11
Pasture						17	23	33	26	1

County Agent Comments

“Quitman County is very dry and crops are drought stressed. The crops need a good rain.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“The first hay cutting has been reduced, to say the least. Some parts of the county have had showers but overall, it is still very dry with crops suffering and pastures slowly drying up. Some producers feel that hay will be short this year. Insect pressure is light in cotton and beans.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“In many places the corn crop is burnt up. Soybeans and cotton are holding up decent just because a good root system was established earlier in the season. We need to have rain immediately to still have a chance to make a decent soybean and cotton crop.”

— Charlie Stokes, Monroe

“Recent rains were a lifesaver but we are getting very dry again. Some of our peanut and cotton crop will not be planted due to low moisture. Non-irrigated watermelons are about 25-35% below normal yields. Pastures are in a serious condition. Forages that would normally be used for hay are being grazed and some hay is being fed.”

— Mike Steede, George

“Very little grass is available for cutting hay because of the shortage of water. Cattle are being rotated into fields normally used to be cut for hay.”

Judith Breland, Stone

Moisture is getting very short in our dry land crops. Irrigated crops look good with no major problems. We need a good mud soaking rain.”

Don Respass, Bolivar

“It's getting dry again and we need more rain. The late planted soybeans are not growing well. Corn and cotton benefitted from the last rain we had.”

Melvin Oatis Benton

“We need rain! Cotton that was growing like a weed last weekend has come to a screeching halt! Even the morning glories are starting to wilt.”

Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“We are very dry, again, in most areas after some scattered rain events last weekend. Rain is needed in most areas. Hay cuttings have been short due to dry conditions.”

Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“Most cotton and soybeans are in good condition, although some areas are adversely affected by drought stress. Corn appears to be the most effected by drought conditions. Preventative fungicide applications have begun on soybeans.”

Jay Phelps Pontotoc

“Many cotton producers applied their layby herbicides this week. In a few situations, soybean farmers are applying addition herbicides to control grasses that are trying to get established. Insect pressure in cotton and soybeans remains low but building with a few cotton fields being treated to control aphids and/or plant bugs. A few soybean fields have also been treated to control stink bugs. This week, most corn producers applied an insecticide to their non-Bt corn to control southwestern corn borers. All of the moisture we received as rainfall over the past two weeks is gone. Irrigation systems are running full blast.”

Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Except for the irrigated fields, if we don't receive a substantial rainfall over the next week this crop will be finished. Thankfully, Sunflower County has 50-55 percent of the cropland irrigated.”

Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Last week's variable rains only gave us a short break in the drought. More rain is desperately needed to keep crops and forages alive. In my opinion, a "normal" crop is not likely this year even if we start getting rain now.”

Ernest Flint, Attala

“The showers were nice while they lasted, but the moisture is about used up. A low pressure system over our state with some constant showers sure would be beneficial to row crops, lawns, pastures, gardens, and hay fields. Cattle and hay producers should be on the look-out for armyworms on a daily basis. Our supply of grass and hay is too short to lose it all to an infestation.”

Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Dry and hot sum up our conditions. Corn is tasseling and developing rapidly, but with reduced ear and kernel size. Late planted corn is very poor. Soybeans need rain to lap middles. Pastures are very short and browning. Farm ponds are drying up.”

Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“While visiting cotton fields this week, there was a surprise. The plants looked good and there were blooms everywhere. The cotton fields I looked at were doing well. The soybeans were definitely showing the effects of the dry weather, but I will not give up on them. They looked a little better than they did on the last visit.”

Bill Maily, Hinds

“Extreme, dry conditions are directly affecting the production of all non-irrigated crops.”

Mark Gillie, Greene

“To sum things up; we need rain!

Victor Lee, Newton

“Isolated thunderstorms in certain locations in the county have continued to provide needed relief for pastures and crops, however, forecasts rain is desperately needed in other locations. Watermelon producers are harvesting smaller melons this year due to the lack of rainfall.”

Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Conditions are dry. The southeastern and southwestern part of the county received about 1.25 inches of rain on Friday evening. Other parts of the county did not receive measureable rainfall. Hayfields, pastures, and corn continue to show signs of drought stress. Beef producers are feeding the remainder of last season’s hay and are turning cows onto this season’s hay crop. Harvesting of the fresh blueberry crop will end soon. Growers will shift to harvesting berries for the frozen market.”

Allen McReynolds, Wayne

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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Weather Summary from June 26, 2006 to July 2, 2006 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Cleveland	97	63	80	81	-1	0.03	-0.98	1	2.39				
Lambert	98	60	78			0.00	-1.02	0	2.95				
Tunica	97	63	78	81	-3	0.00	-1.09	0	2.81				
Extreme/Average	98	60	79	81	-2	0.01	-1.09	0	2.95				
2. North-Central													
Calhoun City	97	57	76	79	-3	0.00	-1.05	0	0.23				
Hickory Flat	98	56	74	78	-4	0.00	-1.05	0	1.98				
Independence	94	58	75	79	-4	0.01	-1.02	1	3.87				
Oxford	98	58	77	79	-2	0.02	-0.96	1	2.01				
Extreme/Average	98	56	76	79	-3	0.02	-1.04	1					
3. Northeast													
Booneville	100	57	78	78	0	0.00	-0.98	0	1.36				
Iuka				76		0.00	-0.93	0	1.53				
Ripley	97	58	77	78	-1	0.00	-1.12	0	2.05				
Tupelo	92	63	78			0.00		0	0.55				
Verona	100	60	78	80	-2	0.00	-0.95	0	1.56				
Extreme/Average	100	57	78	79	-1	0.00	-0.98	0	1.56				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	97	63	79	81	-2	0.00	-1.08	0	1.44				
Rolling Fork	98	61	80	81	-1	0.00	-0.98	0	2.52				
Stoneville	93	61	77	82	-5	0.06	-0.86	1	1.30				
Yazoo City	97	60	78	81	-3	0.00	-0.91	0	0.80				
Extreme/Average	98	60	78	82	-4	0.00	-1.00	0					
5. Central													
Canton	97	56	76	81	-5	0.00	-0.75	0	2.42				
Carthage	97	57	76	80	-4	0.00	-0.85	0	1.31				
Eupora	98	56	77	79	-2	0.00	-0.98	0	1.43				
Lexington	98	57	77	79	-2	0.00	-0.93	0	1.88				
Extreme/Average	98	56	77	79	-2	0.00	-0.97	0	1.88				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	100	60	79	79	0	0.00	-0.94	0	0.85				
Houston	98	54	75	78	-3	0.00	-1.11	0	0.50				
Philadelphia				80		0.00	-0.98	0	1.40				
State University	100	57	79	80	-1	0.00	-0.98	0	1.65				
Extreme/Average	100	54	78	80	-2	0.00	-1.05	0	1.00				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	99	62	80	81	-1	0.00	-1.21	0	0.25				
Natchez	98	57	79	81	-2	0.00	-1.00	0	0.35				
Oakley	97	58	76	80	-4	0.00	-1.01	0	1.75				
Vicksburg	95	60	77			0.48		1	2.32				
Extreme/Average	99	57	79	80	-1	0.00	-1.05	0	0.25				
8. South-Central													
Collins	97	63	80	80	0	0.00	-0.97	0	1.25				
Columbia	99	64	81	81	0	0.00	-1.21	0	0.27				
Tylertown	100	62	80	80	0	0.00	-1.24	0	1.42				
Extreme/Average	100	62	80	80	0	0.00	-1.13	0	1.34				
9. Southeast													
Hattiesburg	97	66	82	81	+1	0.04	-1.07	1	0.73				
Laurel	98	63	80	80	0	0.30	-0.75	1	1.44				
Newton	96	57	76	79	-3	0.00	-1.02	0	2.27				
Extreme/Average	98	57	81	80	+1	0.17	-0.92	1	1.44				
10.Coastal													
Gulfport	93	70	82	82	0	0.77	-0.58	1	1.89				
Pascagoula 3 NE				80		0.00	-1.43	0	0.00				
Picayune	95	68	81	81	0	0.00	-1.31	0	1.00				
Extreme/Average	95	68		81		0.39	-0.94	1	0.96				
State	100	54	78	80	-2	0.03	-1.01	0	1.37				

DFN = Departure from Normal.